



Drought Management Plan

Overview

Drought is a natural climatic condition that has occurred many times in the past and will occur again in the future. The Water Resource Department's overall water management strategy includes planning for drought conditions. The purpose of this plan is to provide a management program of appropriate responses to drought conditions in the event water deliveries are reduced or curtailed to treatment plants, resulting in a reduction to water deliveries to customers.

To ensure an adequate water supply for the City's water users, a drought management plan should establish the criteria for action at each stage of water supply reduction. The plan should minimize negative impact on water users and the economy. Hardship should be distributed equally among all the water users: municipal, residential, commercial and industrial. Water demand reduction includes all measures taken by the water utility to reduce the use of potable water in response to drought.

There are four drought stages in this plan, and each stage has measures that may be implemented by the City Manager or designee. Each stage of the drought management plan is triggered by a reduction of expected water deliveries. Each drought stage is also associated with a menu of response measures. Each successive stage from Stage I to Stage 4 represents a progressively severe condition which includes an increasingly stringent list of measures that may be implemented as necessary.

Although the Water Resources Department may ask for voluntary reduction in water consumption at any time, the drought management plan provides a structured program of response that is available to the public in advance of the need to implement emergency measures.

Purposes of the Drought Management Plan

- Provide contingency plans to ensure that appropriate management resources are available to continue delivering an adequate, safe and reliable supply of high quality water to all customers
- Identify strategies which will motivate the community to reduce normal water consumption
- Recommend a programmed response for each stage which would most effectively reduce water consumption to the available supply with the least adverse impact

Initiation Procedures and Termination Notification

The General Manager of the Water Resources Department shall report the nature and severity of the drought condition to the City Manager or designee. Upon approval from the City Council the City Manager or designee will declare a drought and may impose the measures provided in the Plan to protect the City's water supply and the health, safety and welfare of our water customers.

The Communication and Public Affairs (CAPA) Department and the Water Resources Department shall be charged with public notification and educational activities related to the drought and the restrictions imposed upon water users to conserve water. The General Manager shall continually monitor the drought condition and promptly recommend to the City Manager or designee or the City Council that the declaration be rescinded or modified as warranted by the changing conditions.

Drought Stages and Management

Specific drought triggers and responses are listed according to stages. Stages are dependent on the ability of the Water Resources Department to supply the demand. Restrictions will apply to the use of potable water.

The City Manager or designee is authorized to implement any and all drought measures necessary to achieve the needed outcome. Measures placed in effect at lower drought stages will remain in effect at more stringent response levels. Additional measures may be added when determined necessary by the City Manager or designee.

Declaration of drought at any stage will initiate an intensive public education and information program to advise and educate customers impacted by the water shortage and the need for possible drought measures. At more severe drought stages, this public education and information program will also be utilized to communicate required drought measures and the penalties for non-compliance.

A drought surcharge may be implemented as the City will incur additional operating cost including increased public education due to drought conditions. A drought surcharge may be required at any Drought Stage to offset program expenditures.

STAGE 1: Water Alert

A Stage 1 Water Alert may be declared when a water allocation reduction notification is given by either Salt River Project (SRP) or Central Arizona Project (CAP) to the City of Scottsdale Water Resources Department.

The following measures may be implemented in response to a Water Alert declaration including but not limited to:

Public Education

- A public education and information program designed specifically to address the drought situation and need for voluntary water reductions

Municipal Operation (only)

- 5% overall water use reduction goal
- Reduce water feature operational run time
- **No washing of sidewalks, driveways or parking lots

Residential, Commercial and Industrial Customers

- overall 5% water use reduction goal
- Reduction of landscape watering
- Reduction of operational run time for outdoor misters
- Reduction of water feature operational run time

Other Measures

- Any other measures determined necessary by the City Manager or designee

Notes (applicable to all stages):

*Effluent exemption: Any water customer whose water use consists of more than 50% effluent on an annual basis is exempt from certain drought measures. Each water customer must provide clear signage indicating that effluent water is being used "at this site".

**Vehicle washing, street sweeping and pavement washing are limited or prohibited except to maintain the health, safety and welfare of citizens and water customers.

STAGE 2: Water Warning

Any of the following drought conditions may result in the declaration of a Stage 2 Water Warning:

- SRP notifies the Water Resources Department that SRP surface water deliveries will be reduced to a level which results in insufficient water supplies being available to meet 95% of water demand for the year prior to the initial drought declaration within that portion of the City's service area which falls within SRP boundaries.

OR

- CAP notifies the Water Resources Department that expected CAP deliveries to Scottsdale for the upcoming calendar year will be 10% less than the amount of water ordered by Scottsdale for the year prior to the initial drought declaration.

OR

- Any combination of water supply reductions resulting in an overall decrease of 10% in the amount of water resources available to Scottsdale

OR

- The City Manager or designee determines that such a declaration is necessary to preserve the public health and safety and general welfare of the citizens of Scottsdale.

All drought measures implemented in Stage 1 will be carried forward to Stage 2. The following measures may be implemented in response to the Water Warning declaration including but not limited to:

Public Education

- A public education and information program designed specifically to address the drought situation and the need for compliance

Municipal Operation (only)

- Increase overall water use reduction goal from 5% to 10%
- Restrict landscape watering to:
 - Wednesday, Friday, Sunday from 5AM to 2PM - Odd number street address
 - Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday from 5AM to 2PM - Even number street address
 - No landscape watering on Monday
- *No Fall overseeding of turf areas
- No operation of outdoor misters
- Reduce water feature operational run time from 8 AM to 2 PM

- **Auto/truck washing allowed only if pail and hose/shut off nozzle are used or at a commercial facility

Residential, Commercial and Industrial Customers

- Restrict landscape watering to:
 - Wednesday, Friday, Sunday from 5 AM to 2 PM - Odd street address number
 - Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday from 5 AM to 2 PM - Even street address number
 - No landscape watering on Monday
- No operation of outdoor misters
- Reduce water feature operational run time to 8 AM to 2 PM
- **No washing of sidewalks, driveways or parking lots
- **Vehicle washing allowed only if pail and hose/shut off nozzle are used or at a commercial facility
- *5% water use reduction goal below the ADWR allotment for large turf facilities

Other Measures

- Any other measures determined necessary by the City Manager or designee

STAGE 3: Water Emergency

Any of the following drought conditions may result in the declaration of a Stage 3 Water Emergency:

- SRP notifies the Water Resources Department that SRP surface water deliveries will be reduced to a level which results in insufficient water supplies being available to meet 90% of water demand for the year prior to the initial drought declaration within that portion of the City's service area which falls within SRP boundaries.

OR

- CAP notifies the Water Resources Dept that expected CAP deliveries to Scottsdale for the upcoming calendar year will be 20% less than the amount of water ordered by Scottsdale for the year prior to the initial drought declaration.

OR

- Any combination of water supply reductions resulting in an overall decrease of 15% in the amount of water resources available to Scottsdale

OR

- The City Manager or designee determines that such a declaration is necessary to preserve the public health and safety and general welfare of the citizens of Scottsdale.

All drought measures implemented in Stage 2 will be carried forward to Stage 3. The following additional measures may be implemented in response to the Water Emergency declaration including but not limited to:

Municipal Operation (only)

- Restrict landscape watering to one day per week:
 - Saturday from 5 AM to 2 PM only - Odd street number address
 - Sunday from 5 AM to 2 PM only - Even street number address
 - No landscape watering Monday thru Friday
- *No operation of water features
- **No vehicle washing except at a commercial facility
- Water service connections authorized by approval of the Water Resource Department only
- No new construction flow meters or hydrant meters unless approved by the Water Resources Department
- **No street sweeping

Residential, Commercial and Industrial Customers

- Increase overall water use reduction goal to 10%
- Restrict landscape watering to one day per week:
 - Saturday from 5 AM to 2 PM only – Odd street number address
 - Sunday from 5 AM to 2 PM only – Even street number address
 - No landscape watering Monday thru Friday
- *No water feature operation
- **No vehicle washing except at a commercial facility
- * 10% water use reduction goal below the ADWR allotment for large turf facilities
- Water service connections authorized by approval of the Water Resource Department only
- No new construction flow meters or hydrant meters unless approved by Water Resources Department
- **No street sweeping

Other Measure

- Any other measures determined necessary by the City Manager or designee

STAGE 4: Water Crisis

Any of the following drought conditions may result in the declaration of a Stage 4 Water Crisis:

- SRP notifies the Water Resources Department that SRP surface water deliveries will be reduced to a level which results in insufficient water supplies being available to meet 85% of water demand for the year prior to the initial drought declaration within that portion of the City's service area which falls within SRP boundaries.

OR

- CAP notifies the Water Resources Dept that expected CAP deliveries to Scottsdale for the upcoming calendar year will be 25% less than the amount of water ordered by Scottsdale for the year prior to the initial drought declaration.

OR

- Any combination of water supply reductions resulting in an overall decrease of 20% in the amount of water resources available to Scottsdale.

OR

- The City Manager or designee determines that such a declaration is necessary to preserve the public health and safety and general welfare of the citizens of Scottsdale.

All drought measures implemented in Stage 2 and Stage 3 will be carried forward to Stage 4. The following additional measures may be implemented in response to the Water Emergency declaration including but not limited to:

Municipal Operation (only)

- Landscape watering is restricted to trees only, one day per week:
 - Saturday from 5 AM to 2 PM only - odd street number address
 - Sunday from 5 AM to 2 PM only - even street number address
 - No tree watering Monday thru Friday

Residential, Commercial and Industrial Customers

- Landscape watering is restricted to trees only, one day per week:
 - Saturday from 5 AM to 2 PM only - odd street number address
 - Sunday from 5 AM to 2 PM only - even street number address
 - No tree watering Monday thru Friday

Other Measures

- Additional water use reduction to be determined by City Manager

Variance

Customer specific variances may be granted in cases of hardship or special conditions. The Water Resources Department will consider hardship or special cases to determine whether a particular circumstance warrants a variance. A variance shall be granted only for reasons of severe economic hardship, medical hardship or for a legitimate public health concern. A fee of twenty-five dollars shall be assessed per application to defray administrative costs. The fee may be waived upon the execution of an affidavit.